

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

In the Office Action, the drawings and specification stand objected to.
Claims 1-24 have been indicated as being allowable.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicant proposes amending the specification and drawings as requested in the Office Action.

Objection to the Drawings

In the Office Action, the drawings stand objected to for not including reference character 152, found in the specification.

With regard to the drawings, Applicant hereby proposes labeling Fig. 5 to include the reference character 152 for the inboard reinforcing ring. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

Objection to the Specification

In the Office Action, the specification stands objected to since reference character 154 in Fig. 5 is allegedly not described in the specification.

With regard to reference character 154 (i.e. inner diameter 154), Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to original paragraph [0019] which states:

“The wheel arrangement 107 also has an inboard reinforcing ring 152 which has an outer diameter which is continuously weldably connected to the inboard tire bead seat 134. The inboard reinforcing ring 152 has an inner diameter 154 which is greater than the minimum diameter 149 of the drum and which is significantly greater than the inner diameter 144 of the outboard reinforcing ring. The inboard reinforcing ring 152 has a radial width which is significantly smaller than the radial length of the outboard reinforcing ring 138. In a manner as previously described the outboard reinforcing ring has a series of apertures 156 which allow for the removal of moisture.”

With regard to the remaining objections in the Office Action, Applicant proposes amending the specification as shown above.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the specification.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 04-2223. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

DYKEMA GOSSETT PLLC

Dated: January 5, 2005

By: 

Adesh Bhargava

Reg. No. 46,553

DYKEMA GOSSETT PLLC
1300 I Street, N.W., Suite 300 West
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 906-8696

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached drawing sheets include changes to Fig. 5, wherein Fig. 5 has been labeled to include the reference character 152 for the inboard reinforcing ring.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

Annotated Sheets Showing Changes



LABEL ADDED

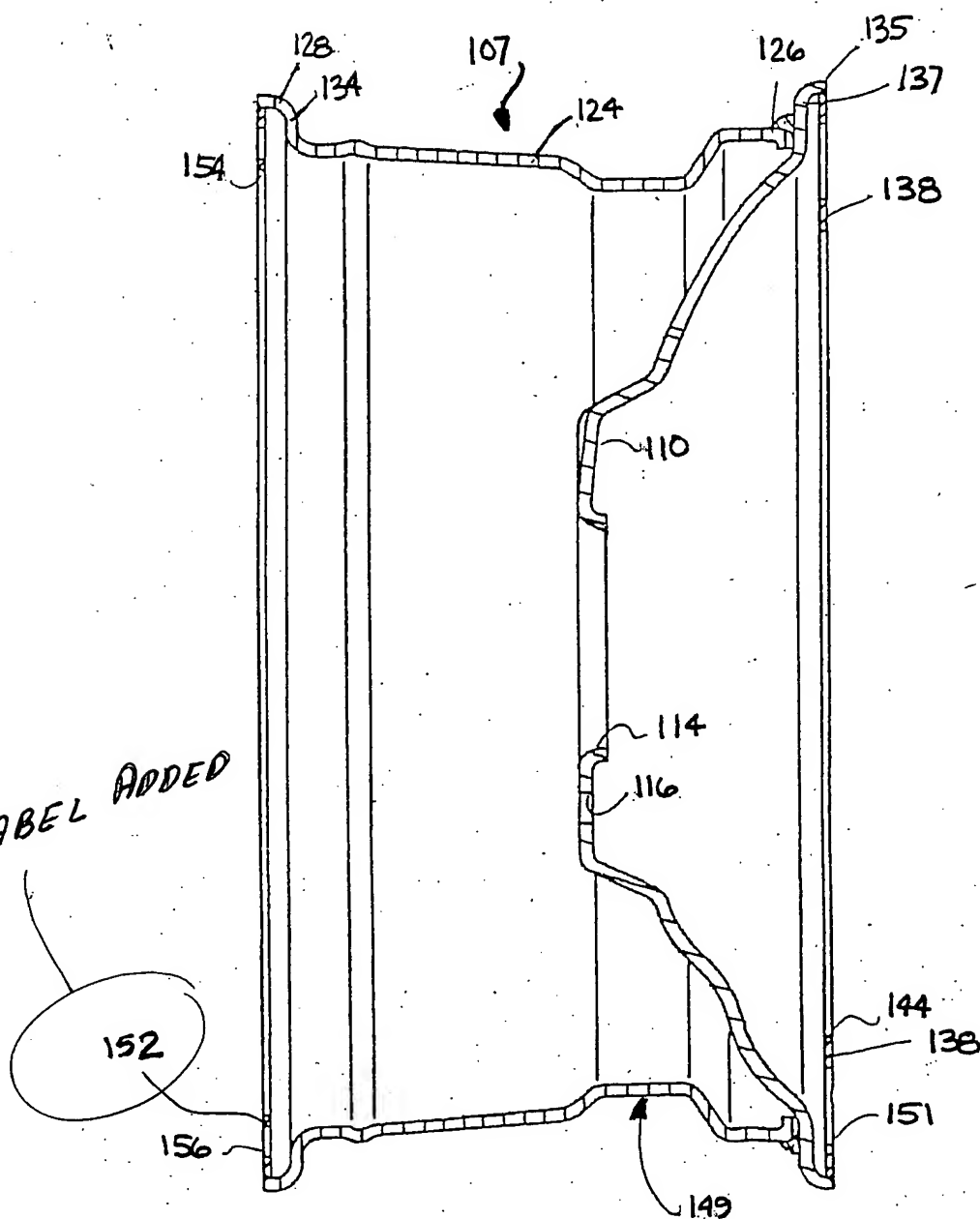


FIG. 5